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## House of Representatives

The House met at 10 a.m.

The Chaplain, Rev. James David Ford, D.D., offered the following prayer:

When the paths of life seem long and there is so much to do, we pray, gracious God, that the blessings of life will flow freely and Your benedictions will comfort and encourage. As we have received so fully from Your grace, O God, so may we share that love with others in our families and in our communities.

May good words and good thoughts and goodwill prevail. May justice mark the work of our hands, and may the spirit of mercy live in our hearts and souls this day and every day. In Your name, we pray. Amen.

### THE JOURNAL

The SPEAKER. The Chair has examined the Journal of the last day's proceedings and announces to the House his approval thereof.

Pursuant to clause 1, rule I, the Journal stands approved.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The SPEAKER. Will the gentleman from California (Mr. ROGAN) come forward and lead the House in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. ROGAN led the Pledge of Allegiance as follows:

I pledge allegiance to the Flag of the United States of America, and to the Republic for which it stands, one nation under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

### MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Mr. Lundregan, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate had passed without amendment bills of the House of the following titles:

H.R. 2202. An act to amend the Public Health Service Act to revise and extend the

bone marrow donor program, and for other purposes.

H.R. 2864. An act to require the Secretary of Labor to establish a program under which employers may consult with State officials respecting compliance with occupational safety and health requirements.

H.R. 2877. An act to amend the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.

H.R. 3035. An act to establish an advisory commission to provide advice and recommendations on the creation of an integrated, coordinated Federal policy designed to prepare for and respond to serious drought emergencies.

### ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER

The SPEAKER. The Chair will recognize 10 1-minutes on each side.

Will the gentlewoman from Missouri (Mrs. EMERSON) kindly assume the chair.

### CHINA SELECTS U.S. ARMY AS "MOST FAVORED WEBSITE"

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Madam Speaker, well, never let it be said that the Communist Chinese do not learn from their mistakes. Or, perhaps we should better say from our mistakes.

It seems that when the Army realized and analyzed their web site that catalogs a variety of "lessons learned," they were surprised to find out who came calling the most often.

Mr. Speaker, it was not the 82nd Airborne Division, it was not the First Infantry Division. It was not the Air Force. It was not the Navy. It was not the Marines.

Mr. Speaker, you guessed it. It was the Communist Chinese. That is right, the United States Army web site is most often visited by the People's Liberation Army. I guess it has attained "China's Most Favored Website" status.

I suppose we should be flattered. After all, is imitation not the sincerest form of flattery?

It does point out that the People's Liberation Army is not a sleeping giant. Communist China's army is actively working to improve its capabilities and learn from our mistakes. At the same time the President is pushing for China to receive Most Favored Nation status, China has selected the United States Army as its "Most Favored Website."

### GOP MANAGED CARE PROPOSAL FALLS SHORT

(Mr. GREEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GREEN. Madam Speaker, it took months of drafting and redrafting and threats and rejection, but last night we got our first look at the Republican managed care proposal.

While the final details will not be worked out for another month, the rough draft is not very promising. Most of the outlined provisions in the bill are too weak to help people like in the story in yesterday's Washington Post.

It was a father of five with liver cancer. He already had access to an appeals process that he actually won. Unfortunately for him, it took 5 months for his doctor to be told that he needed a liver transplant and the HMO was ordered to pay for it. But, Madam Speaker, he died right after they were given that permission.

What he needed was a timely appeals process and an HMO knowing that they would be responsible for the denial of that coverage.

The Republican bill would not help the Houston police officer who, after 30 years of service and not missing a day for illness, was diagnosed with cancer and it took him months to get to a specialist. The proposal would be just

□ This symbol represents the time of day during the House proceedings, e.g., □ 1407 is 2:07 p.m.

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about as effective as using a Band-Aid for a deep flesh wound.

The provisions in the GOP bill would do nothing to stop HMOs from making major decisions based on profits instead of patients.

#### CHILD CUSTODY PROTECTION ACT

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, parents should not be robbed of the inherent right to counsel our children at their time of need. Yet, strangers are now allowed to transport our underage daughters in order to obtain abortions in States without parental notification laws.

This outrage, which is actually encouraged by heartless abortion clinics that place ads highlighting their State's lack of consent laws, must be stopped.

My legislation, H.R. 3682, the Child Custody Protection Act, will ensure that parental rights are respected. It would make it a Federal misdemeanor for a nonparent to transport a minor girl across State lines to avoid that State's abortion parental notification laws.

Innocent minor girls and parents must be protected from strangers who decide to make possible life-threatening decisions for them. This legislation has already been approved by the full House Judiciary Committee and it will soon be brought to this floor for a vote.

Madam Speaker, encourage my colleagues to support the protection of parental rights by voting for this important legislation.

#### DISCHARGE PETITION URGING CONSIDERATION OF IMF FUNDING

(Mr. OBEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. OBEY. Madam Speaker, several days ago I introduced House Resolution 473, which will provide for the consideration of the remnants of H.R. 3580, a supplemental appropriation bill funding the International Monetary Fund.

Madam Speaker, I would urge all Members to sign the discharge petition which will be available at the desk starting now.

Last fall the Speaker of the House decided to use the U.N. and the IMF funding as leverage to force the President to agree to unacceptable changes in international family planning policies, and he has continued to hold this needed funding hostage. Failure to act on the IMF funding continues to endanger the U.S. economy, which is becoming more concerned each passing day with what is happening in Asia.

We need to have the debate on the IMF so that the many concerns about how the IMF is run can be resolved and so that critically needed replenish-

ments can be put in place. American jobs are at stake. We cannot afford to allow this threat to the American economy to continue. I urge every Member to sign the discharge petition now.

#### LIBERALS' RECORD ON EDUCATION IN AMERICA

(Mr. CHABOT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. CHABOT. Madam Speaker, as a former schoolteacher myself, I would like to review the liberals' record on the issue of education in this country.

In the 1960s, the liberals decided to "dumb down" the curriculum and now across the country academic rigor is absent from many of our public schools. The predictable result is that student achievement in many areas has plummeted.

The liberals also decided that self-esteem was in and that actual knowledge was out. The liberals embraced bogus, faddish teaching methods and produced a generation of children who never learned to read.

And now the liberals oppose legislation we recently passed here in Congress which would allow parents to put their own money in accounts and not to pay tax on the money in those accounts for educating their children, kindergarten through high school. They say it would somehow hurt the public schools.

Baloney. Let us make it a little easier for parents, particularly middle-class parents, to provide a quality education for their children.

#### REAL MANAGED CARE REFORM

(Mr. PALLONE asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, yesterday the Republican Health Task Force unveiled a set of principles that fall far short of real patient protections for Americans in HMOs.

More sinister was the Republicans' stated intention to combine changes in managed care with limits on medical malpractice liability and other highly controversial add-ons which will immediately kill any possibility for even limited patient protections to pass Congress this year.

Earlier this week, the gentleman from Iowa (Mr. GANSKE) and the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. DINGELL) introduced a discharge petition to bypass the Republican leadership's opposition to real managed care reform and bring the Patients' Bill of Rights to the floor for a vote.

The Patients' Bill of Rights would put control of medical decisions back where they belong, in the hands of doctors and their patients, not with the insurance industry bureaucrats.

Madam Speaker, I urge all of my colleagues to sign the Ganske-Dingell discharge petition so we can have a vote on real managed care reform this year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JESSICA LORINE GONDER, U.S. SAVINGS BOND NATIONAL STUDENT POSTER CONTEST WINNER

(Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. BARTLETT of Maryland. Madam Speaker, the United States Savings Bond National Student Poster Contest provides an opportunity for thousands of our children to learn the value of saving money while increasing the public awareness of buying U.S. savings bonds as an easy way to save and invest in their own and America's future success.

I am extremely proud of one of my constituents, Jessica Lorine Gonder of Funkstown, Maryland, who designed posters which won both the 1997 and 1998 Maryland State contest. Her impressive freehand design, which I wish everyone could see, is the 1998 National Second Place winner. Jessica was just a sixth grader at E. Russell Hicks Middle School in Hagerstown, Maryland, in Washington County.

Jessica Gonder's award-winning posters are another testament to America's greatness and our leadership in the world. In America, competition, hard work, and perseverance improve quality and are the keys to achieving success.

Madam Speaker, I say, "Congratulations, Jessica."

#### CONGRESS SHOULD ADDRESS CLASS SIZE AND SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION

(Mr. SNYDER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. SNYDER. Madam Speaker, America's school kids are now out of school and we join them, beginning today, back home for the 2-week July 4th recess.

When we return, we will not have many work days left this year. And yet, we have done nothing about the two most critical problems facing America's public schools: class sizes that are too large and school buildings of poor quality.

Madam Speaker, I want Arkansas school boards to run their schools, but the American people expect their government in Washington to help with these critical needs. When we return in 2 weeks, I hope we will refocus our attention to America's public schools and help America put more teachers in the classrooms and create better quality classrooms to put them in. America's schoolchildren deserve the best schools that we can give them.

#### IN HONOR OF DR. GLORIA M. SHATTO, PRESIDENT, BERRY COLLEGE

(Mr. BARR of Georgia asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)